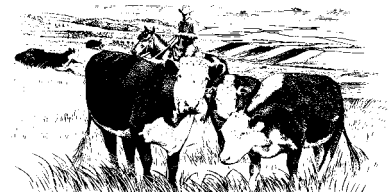


California Livestock Review



Frequency: Monthly
Released: September 28, 1999

(USPS 598-250)
VOL. 21 NO. 9



CALIFORNIA AGRICULTURAL
STATISTICS SERVICE

HIGHLIGHTS IN THIS ISSUE:

Cattle on Feed	1
Livestock Slaughter	2
Farm Prices and Hog Inventory	3

NATIONAL LIVESTOCK REPORTS RELEASE DATES 3:00 P.M. EDT

Oct. 15	Cattle on Feed	Nov. 19	Cattle on Feed
20	Cold Storage	19	Cold Storage
22	Livestock Slaughter	19	Livestock Slaughter

CATTLE ON FEED IN CALIFORNIA

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter in California feedlots remained the same as last month with 375 thousand head on September 1, 1999 and 5 percent below September 1998. During August, placements of 60.0 thousand head were 9 percent above the previous year. Marketings of 55.0 thousand head were 10 percent above August 1998. Other disappearance totaled 5.00 thousand head.

Marketings of fed cattle during August totaled 2.03 million, 4 percent above 1998, but slightly below 1997. Other disappearance totaled 55.0 thousand during August, 6 percent above 1998 and 22 percent above 1997.

U.S. CATTLE ON FEED UP 5 PERCENT

Cattle and calves on feed for slaughter market in the United States for 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 9.53 million head on September 1, 1999. The inventory was 5 percent above September 1, 1998 and 4 percent above September 1, 1997.

CATTLE ON FEED UP 5 PERCENT IN HISTORIC SEVEN STATES

Cattle on feed in the historic seven states in 1,000+ capacity feedlots totaled 8.18 million on September 1, 1999. This was up 5 percent from the previous year and 4 percent above September 1, 1997. Placements in feedlots during August totaled 2.07 million, 17 percent above 1998, but 2 percent below 1997. Marketings during August totaled 1.73 million, 3 percent above 1998, but 1 percent below 1997. Other disappearance during August was 42.0 thousand head, the same as 1998 and 1997.

Placements in feedlots during August totaled 2.41 million, 17 percent above 1998, but 1 percent below 1997. Net placements were 2.36 million. During August, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 492 thousand, 600-699 pounds were 480 thousand, 700-799 pounds were 731 thousand, and 800 pounds and greater were 710 thousand.

CATTLE AND CALVES ON FEED IN 1,000+ CAPACITY FEEDLOTS IN SEVEN SELECTED STATES

State	Number on feed August 1 1/			Placed During August		Marketed During August	
	1998	1999	1999/1998	1998	1999	1998	1999
	1,000 Head						
Arizona	196	194	99	19	29	14	22
California	395	375	95	55	60	50	55
Colorado	840	960	114	220	245	215	240
Iowa	245	290	118	39	56	48	45
Kansas	1,930	1,980	103	480	570	450	460
Nebraska	1,460	1,600	110	450	500	380	390
Texas	2,640	2,480	94	510	610	530	520
Seven-State Total	7,706	7,879	102	1,773	2,070	1,687	1,732
State	Other Disappearance During August 2/		Number on Feed September 1		1999/1998		
	1998	1999	1998	1999			
	1,000 Head					Percent	
Arizona	1	1	200	200	100		
California	5	5	395	375	95		
Colorado	5	5	840	960	114		
Iowa	1	1	235	300	128		
Kansas	10	10	1,950	2,080	107		
Nebraska	10	10	1,520	1,700	112		
Texas	10	10	2,610	2,560	98		
Seven-State Total	42	42	7,750	8,175	105		

^{1/} Cattle and calves on feed are animals being fed for slaughter market on grain or other concentrates, and are expected to produce a carcass that will grade select or better.

^{2/} Includes death losses, movement from feedlot to pastures and shipments to other feedlots for further feeding.

CALIFORNIA COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER

California production of red meat during August 1999 totaled 89.3 million pounds (dressed weight), 5 percent above last month and 1 percent above August 1998. This figure includes slaughter in Federally-inspected and State-inspected plants, but excludes slaughter done on farms. In August 1999, the average live weight of cattle slaughtered was 1,248 pounds; calves, 131 pounds; and hogs, 210 pounds.

PORK AND RED MEAT PRODUCTION SET RECORD HIGHS

Commercial red meat production for the United States totaled 3.91 billion pounds in August. This was up 4 percent from the 3.77 billion pounds produced in August 1998 and up 1 percent from the previous record high for August set in 1995.

August 1998 contained 21 weekdays and five Saturdays. August 1999 contained 22 weekdays and four Saturdays.

Beef production, at 2.31 billion pounds, was 4 percent above the previous year. Cattle slaughter totaled 3.15 million head, up 4 percent from 1998. The average live weight was down 4 pounds from the previous year to 1,206 pounds.

Veal production totaled 20.0 million pounds, slightly above August a year ago. Calf slaughter totaled 119 thousand head, down 5 percent from August 1998. The average live weight, at 282 pounds, was 16 pounds above last year.

Pork production totaled 1.56 billion pounds, up 4 percent from the previous record high for August set last year. Hog kill totaled 8.41 million head, 3 percent above 1998. The average live weight, at 254 pounds, was 2 pounds above the previous year.

Lamb and mutton production, at 19.0 million pounds, was up 10 percent from August 1998. Sheep slaughter totaled 296 thousand head, 8 percent above last year. The average live weight was 127 pounds, up 4 pounds from August a year ago.

January-August red meat production was 30.4 billion pounds, 3 percent higher than the comparable figure a year earlier. Accumulated beef production was 3 percent higher than last year, veal was down 12 percent, pork was up 3 percent, and lamb & mutton was down 5 percent.

COMMERCIAL SLAUGHTER, AUGUST 1/

Class & Location	Number Slaughtered		Total Live Weight		Avg. Live Weight	
	1998	1999	1998	1999	1998	1999
	1,000 Head		1,000 Pounds		Pounds	
CATTLE						
California	86.5	85.5	106,991	106,633	1,237	1,248
U.S.	3,039.5	3,152.4	3,676,393	3,801,197	1,210	1,206
CALVES						
California	19.4	17.3	2,305	2,263	119	131
U.S.	125.1	118.8	33,305	33,454	266	282
SHEEP & LAMBS						
California	---	---	---	---	---	---
U.S.	275.5	296.3	33,872	37,504	123	127
HOGS						
California	189.9	192.3	39,406	40,308	207	210
U.S.	8,169.2	8,406.3	2,055,380	2,132,691	252	254
RED MEAT						
	Aug. 1998	July 1999	Aug. 1999	Aug. 99 Aug. 98	Aug. 99 July 99	
	Million Pounds			Percent		
California	88.6	85.3	89.3	101	105	
U.S. 2/	3,769.5	3,781.4	3,912.1	104	103	

1/ Farm slaughter excluded.

2/ Revised total for July 1999.

FEDERALLY-INSPECTED SLAUGHTER FOR REGIONS AND U.S., JANUARY-AUGUST 1999 1/

Standard Federal Regions 2/	Cattle							Calves Total 3/
	Total 3/	Steers	Heifers	Cows			Bulls & Stags	
				All	Dairy	Other		
	1,000 Head							
1	13.8	1.8	1.5	8.9	8.5	0.5	1.5	27.9
2	55.6	9.5	3.5	36.9	34.1	2.9	5.7	183.6
3	686.5	335.5	52.5	283.1	206.9	76.2	15.4	123.3
4	609.8	11.0	6.8	526.7	196.0	330.7	65.3	14.0
5	2,416.9	1,070.6	400.6	872.9	619.5	253.4	72.8	318.2
6	4,551.6	2,375.5	1,563.1	495.6	76.7	418.9	117.4	17.4
7	10,925.3	5,851.0	4,417.6	612.9	92.6	520.3	43.7	0.7
8	2,430.0	1,248.6	1,000.6	142.5	23.5	119.0	38.4	---
9	991.6	497.9	59.4	407.6	318.6	89.0	26.6	120.6
10	1,031.4	502.4	261.2	240.4	94.9	145.5	27.4	17.0
U.S. 3/	23,712.5	11,903.9	7,766.8	3,627.6	1,671.2	1,956.3	414.2	822.7
Standard Federal Regions 2/	Hogs				Sheep			
	Total 3/	Barrows & Gilts	Sows	Stags & Boars	Total 3/	Mature Sheep	Lambs & Yearlings	
	1,000 Head							
1	13.8	13.2	0.5	0.1	13.4	3.6	9.9	
2	95.9	94.1	1.4	0.4	89.4	15.4	73.9	
3	4,388.7	4,370.5	17.9	0.3	76.4	5.9	70.5	
4	10,173.7	9,500.5	663.6	9.6	9.9	7.2	2.7	
5	16,304.6	15,426.5	820.9	57.2	287.5	34.2	253.4	
6	3,148.8	2,957.7	189.4	1.8	344.4	31.9	312.5	
7	26,246.5	25,715.6	318.2	212.7	347.1	2.4	344.8	
8	2,808.6	2,595.3	213.2	0.1	836.9	16.2	820.6	
9	1,538.0	1,536.3	1.6	0.1	300.6	4.8	295.9	
10	244.6	242.2	2.1	0.3	5.7	1.2	4.5	
U.S. 3/	64,963.2	62,451.9	2,228.7	282.6	2,311.3	122.7	2,188.6	

1/ Accumulated totals based on unrounded data.

2/ States included in regions are as follows: 1--CT, ME, NH, VT, MA & RI; 2--NY & NJ; 3--DE-MD, PA, WV & VA; 4--AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC & TN; 5--IL, IN, MI, MN, OH & WI; 6--AR, LA, NM, OK & TX; 7--IA, KS, MO & NE; 8--CO, MT, ND, SD, UT & WY; 9--AZ, CA, HI & NV; 10--ID, OR & WA.

3/ Totals may not add due to rounding.

AVERAGE FARM PRICES RECEIVED BY FARMERS, CALIFORNIA AND U.S. 1/

Commodity	Unit	California			United States		
		August 1998	July 1999	August 15, 1999	August 1998	July 1999	August 15, 1999
		Dollars					
All Hay, Baled 2/	Ton	97.00	74.00	71.00	88.00	78.40	77.40
Alfalfa, Baled 2/	Ton	99.00	76.00	72.00	90.20	82.00	81.50
Hogs 2/ 3/	Cwt.	---	---	---	35.20	31.20	36.40
Cows 2/	Cwt.	34.50	36.50	36.00	34.20	37.70	37.00
Steers and Heifers 2/	Cwt.	59.00	63.00	64.00	59.70	65.20	65.60
Calves 2/	Cwt.	68.00	76.00	76.50	76.90	89.20	89.00
Sheep 2/	Cwt.	29.00	26.00	29.50	28.30	32.00	---
Lambs 2/	Cwt.	79.00	75.50	80.00	80.10	77.00	---
Milk Cows 4/	Head	---	1,360.00	---	---	1,280.00	---
All Milk Wholesale 2/	Cwt.	15.62	13.21	14.40	15.50	13.70	14.90

1/ The estimated prices in the table represent composite average prices received by farmers and are averages for all grades, classes, and methods of sale of each commodity for the State and U.S. as a whole.

2/ Previous month revised to monthly average.

3/ Prices include barrows, gilts, and sows.

4/ Animals sold for dairy herd replacement only. Prices published January, April, July and October.

U.S. HOG INVENTORY DOWN 4 PERCENT

United States inventory of all hogs and pigs was 60.7 million head on September 1, 1999. This was 4 percent below September 1998, but slightly above June 1, 1999.

The total number of hogs under contract and owned by operations with more than 5,000 head, but raised by contractees, accounted for 31 percent of the total U.S. hog inventory.

Breeding inventory, at 6.29 million head, was down 8 percent from September 1, 1998 and down 3 percent from June 1, 1999. Market hog inventory, at 54.4 million head, was 4 percent below last year, but 1 percent above last quarter.

Revisions:

All inventory and pig crop estimates for September 1998 through June 1999 were reviewed using final pig crop, official slaughter, import, and export data in U.S. level balance sheets. Based on the findings of this review, small adjustments of one-half percent were made to the inventory level for March 1, while less than one-half percent were made to the inventory level for June 1.

The June-August 1999 U.S. pig crop, at 25.9 million head, was 3 percent less than 1998, but 1 percent more than 1997. Sows farrowing during this period totaled 2.93 million head, 4 percent below last year. The sows farrowed during this quarter represented 45 percent of the breeding herd. The average pigs per litter rose to an average of 8.86 pigs saved per litter for the June-August period, compared to 8.72 pigs last year. Pigs saved per litter by size of operation ranged from 7.80 for operations with 1-99 hogs to 9.00 for operations with more than 5,000 hogs and pigs.

U.S. hog producers intend to have 2.85 million sows farrow during the September-November 1999 quarter, 5 percent below the actual farrowings during the same period in 1998, and 3 percent below 1997. Intended farrowings for December 1999-February 2000, at 2.81 million sows, are 3 percent below the same period last year and 4 percent below 1998.

U.S. HOG AND PIG INVENTORY, SEPTEMBER 1, 1997-99

Item	1997	1998	1999	1999/1997	1999/1998
	1,000 Head			Percent	
September 1 Inventory					
All Hogs And Pigs	60,456	63,488	60,736	100	96
Kept For Breeding	6,858	6,875	6,291	92	92
Market	53,598	56,612	54,444	102	96
Market Hogs and Pigs by Weight Groups					
Under 60 Pounds	20,662	21,189	20,273	98	96
60-119 Pounds	13,388	14,032	13,424	100	96
120-179 Pounds	10,673	11,555	11,149	104	96
180 Pounds And Over	8,875	9,837	9,599	108	98